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#### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of formula A, A', C and C', or the corresponding enantiomer:

wherein:

- a) R and R<sup>2</sup> are independently aryl, alkyl, alkyl aryl, aryl alkyl, or chiral oxazolino which may be substituted with carboxylic acid, alkoxy, hydroxy, alkylthio, thiol, dialkylamino, or diphenylphosphino groups;
- b) R<sup>1</sup> can be H, alkyl, silane, aryl, a water soluble unit, or a linked polymer chain or inorganic support; and

c) Bridge may be:

-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- where n is an integer ranging from 1 to 8;

-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>X(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- wherein n and m are each integers, the same or different, ranging from 1 to 8, and X is O, S, NR<sup>4</sup>, PR<sup>4</sup>, AsR<sup>4</sup>, SbR<sup>4</sup>, divalent aryl, divalent fused aryl, divalent 5-membered ring heterocyclic group, or divalent fused heterocyclic group, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is aryl, alkyl, substituted aryl, or substituted alkyl; or

1,2-divalent phenyl, 2,2'-divalent 1,1'biphenyl or 2,2'-divalent 1,2'-binapthyl or ferrocene, each of which may be substituted with aryl, C1-C8 alkyl, F, Cl, Br, I, COOR<sup>5</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, PO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, OR<sup>5</sup>, SR<sup>5</sup>, NR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, PR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, AsR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, or SbR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>;

wherein the substitution on 1,2-divalent phenyl, the ferrocene or biaryl bridge can be independently halogen, alkyl, alkoxyl, aryl, aryloxy, nitro, amino, vinyl, substituted vinyl, alkynyl, or sulfonic acids; and

 $R^5$  is hydrogen, C1-C8 alkyl, C1-C8 fluoroalkyl, or C1-C8 perfluoroalkyl, aryl; substituted aryl; arylalkyl; ring-substituted arylalkyl; or –  $CR_2^3(CR_2^3)_qX(CR_2^3)_pR^1$  wherein q and p are integers, the same or different, ranging from 1 to 8;  $R^3$  is aryl, alkyl, substituted aryl, or substituted alkyl; and X is as defined above.

- 2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is of formula A or A', or the corresponding enantiomer.
- 3. A compound according to claim 2, wherein the compound is of formula A or A', or the corresponding enantiomer, wherein R is methyl, ethyl, or benzyl; R' is hydrogen or benzyl; and Bridge is:

- $(CH_2)_n$ - where n is an integer ranging from 1 to 3;

1,2-divalent phenyl, 2,2'-divalent 1,1'biphenyl, 2,2'-divalent 1,2'binapthyl, or ferrocene, each of which may be substituted with alkyl having 1-3 carbon atoms or OR<sup>5</sup>, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is methyl or ethyl.

4. A compound according to claim 3, selected from L1, L3-L5, L7-L8, L10-L12, and L18-L21:

L 4 (A)

5. A compound according to claim 3, of formula 2:

6. A compound according to claim 3, of formula 3:

- 7. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is of formula C or C' or the corresponding enantiomer.
- 8. A compound according to claim 7, wherein R is methyl, ethyl, cyclohexyl, or phenyl; R' is hydrogen or benzyl; R<sup>2</sup> is o-X-phenyl wherein X is hydrogen or a carboxylic acid, alkoxy, hydroxy, alkylthio, thiol, dialkylamino, diphenylphosphino, or chiral oxazolino group.

9. A compound, according to claim 1, which is selected from structures L26, L28, L29, L30 and L32, represented by the formulas:

10. A compound according to claim 1, represented by the formula (1):

11. A compound of the following formula or its corresponding enantiomer:

$$R^2 - P$$

OR

 $OR$ 

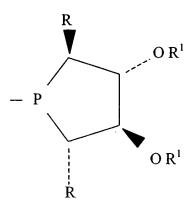
wherein:

- A) R is each C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl aryl; aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, aryl, each of which may be substituted with carboxylic acid, alkoxy, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylthio, thiol, dialkylamino, or diphenylphosphino, or chiral oxazoline; and
- B) R<sup>1</sup> is each H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, silane, aryl, a water soluble unit, or a linked polymer chain or linked inorganic support; and
- C) R<sup>2</sup> is either R, H, or a symmetrical bidentate structure having the formula

BRIDGE Z
wherein BRIDGE is

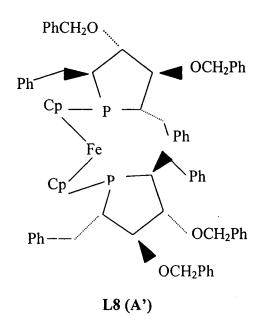
- i)  $-(CH_2)_n$  where n is an integer from 1 to 8; or
- ii) —(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub> X (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>— where n and m are the same or different integers from 1 to 8, and X is O, S, NR<sup>4</sup>, PR<sup>4</sup>, AsR<sup>4</sup>, SbR<sup>4</sup>, divalent aryl, divalent fused aryl, divalent 5-membered heterocyclic ring, or divalent fused heterocyclic ring, where R<sup>4</sup> is C<sup>1</sup>-C<sup>8</sup> alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, or substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl; or
- iii) 1, 2-divalent phenyl, 2, 2'-divalent 1,
  1'biphenyl, 2,2'-divalent, 1,1' binapthyl, or
  ferrocene, each of which may be substituted
  independently with C<sub>1</sub> C<sub>8</sub> alkyl or aryl, F, Cl,
  Br, I, COOR<sup>5</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, PO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, OR<sup>5</sup>, SR<sup>5</sup>, NR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>,
  PR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, AsR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, SbR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, nitro, vinyl, substituted
  vinyl, alkynyl wherein R<sup>5</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl,
  substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> fluoroalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>
  perfluoroalkyl, aryl or substituted aryl; and

wherein Z is a compound selected from the group of compounds having the following formula and their corresponding enantiomers:



- 12. A compound according to claim 11 wherein R is methyl, ethyl, or benzyl; R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or benzyl, and BRIDGE is:

  -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- where n is an integer from 1 to 3; 1,2- divalent phenyl, 2,2' divalent 1,1' biphenyl, 2,2'-divalent 1,2' binapthyl, or ferrocene, each of which may substituted with C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl or OR<sup>5</sup>, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is methyl or ethyl.
- 13. A compound according to claim 11 selected from the group of compounds of the following formulas and their corresponding enantiomers:



L21 (A)

14. A compound according to claim 11 selected from the group of compounds of the following formulas and their corresponding enantiomers wherein R is either methyl or ethyl:

15. A compound according to claim 11 selected from the group of compounds of the following formulas and their corresponding enantiomers wherein R is either methyl or ethyl:

16. A compound according to claim 11 selected from the group of compounds of the following formula and their corresponding enantiomers:

17. A compound selected from the group of compounds of the following formula:

$$R^2$$
  $-P$   $OR^1$   $OR^1$ 

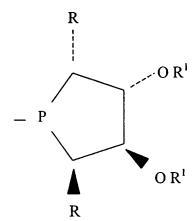
#### wherein

- A) R is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl aryl, aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, or aryl, each of which may be substituted with carboxylic acid, alkoxy, hydroxy, alkylthio, thiol, dialkylamino, diphenylphosphino or chiral oxazoline; and
- B) R<sup>1</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, silane, aryl, a water soluble unit, or a linked polymer chain, or linked inorganic support; and
- C) R<sup>2</sup> is either R, H, or a symmetrical bidentate structure having the following formula:

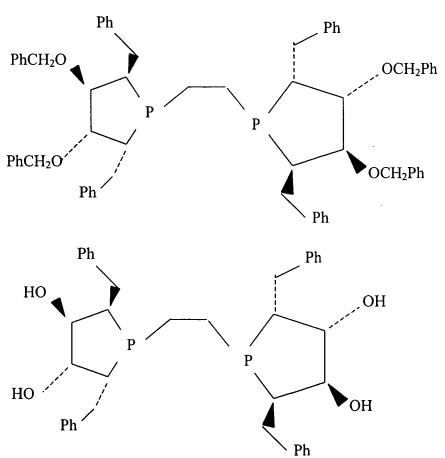
# BRIDGE Z wherein BRIDGE is

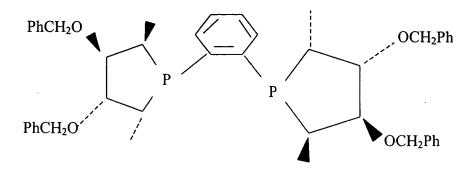
- i)  $-(CH_2)_n$  where n is an integer from 1 to 8; or
- ii) —(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub> X (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>— where n and m are the same or different integers from 1 to 8, and X is O, S, NR<sup>4</sup>, PR<sup>4</sup>, AsR<sup>4</sup>, SbR<sup>4</sup>, divalent aryl, divalent fused aryl, divalent 5-membered heterocyclic ring, or divalent fused heterocyclic ring, where R<sup>4</sup> is C<sup>1</sup>-C<sup>8</sup> alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, or substituted alkyl; or
- iii) 1, 2-divalent phenyl, 2, 2'-divalent 1, 1'-biphenyl, 2,2'-divalent, 1,1'-binapthyl, or ferrocene, each of which may be substituted independently with C<sub>1</sub> C<sub>8</sub> alkyl or aryl, F, Cl, Br, I, COOR<sup>5</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, PO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, OR<sup>5</sup>, SR<sup>5</sup>, NR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, PR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, AsR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, SbR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, nitro, vinyl, substituted vinyl, alkynyl wherein R<sup>5</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> fluoroalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> perfluoroalkyl, aryl or substituted aryl; and

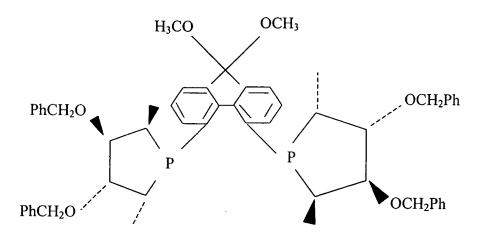
wherein Z is a compound selected from the group of compounds having the following formula:



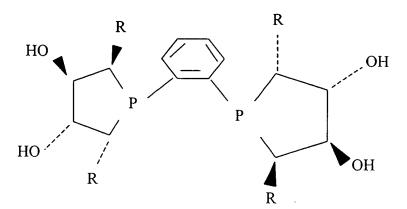
- 18. A compound according to claim 17 wherein R is methyl, ethyl, or benzyl;  $R^1$  is hydrogen or benzyl; and the BRIDGE of  $R^2$  is:- $(CH_2)_{n^-}$  where n is an integer ranging from 1 to 3; 1,2- divalent phenyl, 2,2'- divalent 1,1' biphenyl, 2,2'- divalent 1,2' binapthyl, or ferrocene, each of which may be substituted with  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl or  $OR^5$ , wherein  $R^5$  is methyl or ethyl.
- 19. A compound according to claim 18 selected from the following formulas:



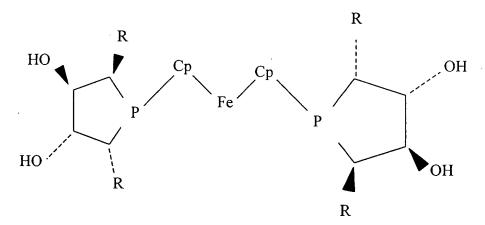




20. A compound according to claim 17 selected from the group of compounds of the following formula wherein R is methyl or ethyl:



21. A compound according to claim 17 selected from the group of compounds of the following formula and their corresponding enantiomers wherein R is either methyl or ethyl:



22. A compound according to claim 17 selected from the group of compounds of the following formula wherein R is either methyl or ethyl:

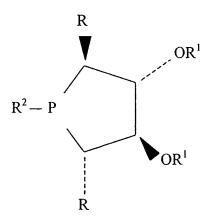
23. A catalyst comprising a compound in the form of a complex with a transition metal wherein said compound is selected from compounds represented by the formula:

- 24. A catalyst according to claim 23, wherein the transition metal is rhodium, iridium, ruthenium, nickel, or palladium.
- 25. A catalyst according to claim 24, wherein said compound is a complex with a compound selected from the group consisting of: Pd<sub>2</sub>(DBA)<sub>3</sub>, Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>;

[Rh(COD)Cl]<sub>2</sub>, [Rh(COD)<sub>2</sub>]X, Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub>; RuCl<sub>2</sub>(COD), Ru(COD)(methylallyl)<sub>2</sub>, Ru(Ar)Cl<sub>2</sub>, wherein Ar is an aryl group, unsubstituted or substituted with an alkyl group; [Ir(COD)Cl]<sub>2</sub>, [Ir(COD)<sub>2</sub>]X; and Ni(allyl)X; wherein X is a counterion.

- 26. A catalyst according to claim 25, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of: F1, C1, Br, I, BF<sub>4</sub>, ClO<sub>4</sub>, SbF<sub>6</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>, and PF<sub>6</sub>.
  - 27. A catalyst according to claim 26 wherein X is PF<sub>6</sub>.
- 28. A catalyst according to claim 24 wherein the transition metal is Ru or Rh.
  - 29. A catalyst according to claim 28 wherein the transition metal is Rh.
- 30. A catalyst according to claim 23, wherein the catalyst comprises: Ru(RCOO)<sub>2</sub>(diphosphine), RuX<sub>2</sub>(diphosphine), Ru(methylallyl)<sub>2</sub>(diphosphine), Ru(aryl group)X<sub>2</sub>(diphosphine), Rh(RCOO)<sub>2</sub>(diphosphine), RhX<sub>2</sub>(diphosphine), Rh(methylallyl)<sub>2</sub> diphosphine, or Rh(aryl group)X<sub>2</sub> (diphosphine) and X is halogen.
- 31. A catalyst according to claim 23 for asymmetric hydrogenation of a ketone, imine, or olefin, comprising: a complex of compounds 2 or 3 with a Rh compound selected from the group consisting of: [Rh(COD)Cl]<sub>2</sub> and [Rh(COD)<sub>2</sub>]X, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of: BF<sub>4</sub>, ClO<sub>4</sub>, SbF<sub>6</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>.:

32. A catalyst according to claim 23 comprising a transition metal complex of a compound of the following formula or its enantiomer:



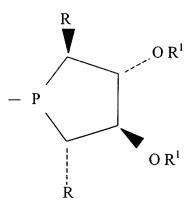
wherein:

- (A) R is each C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl aryl; aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, aryl, each of which may be substituted with carboxylic acid, alkoxy, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylthio, thiol, dialkylamino, or diphenylphosphino, or chiral oxazoline; and
- (B) R<sup>1</sup> is each H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, silane, aryl, a water soluble unit, or a linked polymer chain or linked inorganic support; and
  - (C) R<sup>2</sup> is either R, H, or a symmetrical bidentate structure having the formula

- (i)  $-(CH_2)_n$  where n is an integer from 1 to 8; or
- (ii)  $-(CH_2)_n X (CH_2)_m$  where n and m are the same or different integers from 1 to 8, and X is O, S,  $NR^4$ ,  $PR^4$ ,

AsR<sup>4</sup>, SbR<sup>4</sup>, divalent aryl, divalent fused aryl, divalent 5-membered heterocyclic ring, or divalent fused heterocyclic ring, where R<sup>4</sup> is C<sup>1</sup>-C<sup>8</sup> alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, or substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl; or (iii) 1, 2-divalent phenyl, 2, 2'-divalent 1, 1'biphenyl, 2,2'-divalent, 1,1' binapthyl, or ferrocene, each of which may be substituted independently with C<sub>1</sub> – C<sub>8</sub> alkyl or aryl, F, Cl, Br, I, COOR<sup>5</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, PO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, OR<sup>5</sup>, SR<sup>5</sup>, NR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, PR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, AsR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, SbR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, nitro, vinyl, substituted vinyl, alkynyl wherein R<sup>5</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> fluoroalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> perfluoroalkyl, aryl or substituted aryl; and

wherein Z is a compound selected from the group of compounds having the following formula and their corresponding enantiomers:

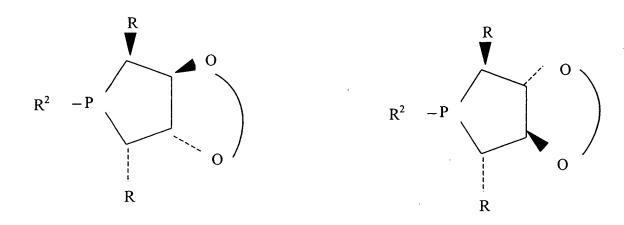


- 33. A catalyst according to claim 23, wherein each R<sup>1</sup> is independently selected from the group consisting of: methyl and ethyl groups.
- 34. A catalyst according to claim 23, wherein the transition metal complex is derived from a compound of the following formula or its enantiomer:

35. A catalyst according to claim 23, wherein the transition metal complex is derived from a compound of the following formula or its enantiomer:

24 f-ketalPhos

36. A catalyst according to claim 23 comprising a transition metal complex of a compound of the following formula or its enantiomer:

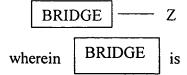


wherein

- A) R is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl aryl, aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, aryl, each of which may be substituted with carboxylic acid, alkoxy, hydroxy, alkylthio, thiol, dialkylamino, diphenylphosphino or chiral oxazoline; and
- B) the ring component OO represents a protected diol, a crown ether linkage, -O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl-O- wherein the alkyl group is linked to a polymer, -O-(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-O- wherein n is an integer ranging from 1 to 8 and the methylene groups are optionally substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, or O-W-O, where W is BR<sup>9</sup>, POR<sup>9</sup>, PO (OR<sup>9</sup>), SO<sub>2</sub>, CO, or Si(R<sup>9</sup>)<sub>2</sub>;

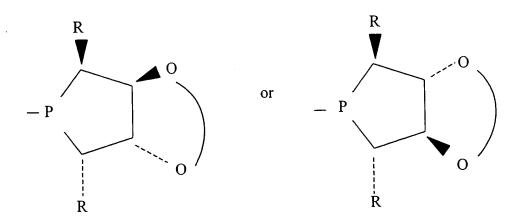
where  $R^9$  is  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, aryl,  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl aryl, or aryl  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, alkylthio, thio, alkylamino, dialkylamino; and

C) R<sup>2</sup> is either R, H, phenyl or a symmetrical bidentate structure having the formula

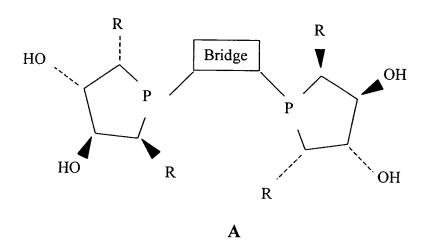


- i)  $-(CH_2)_n$  where n is an integer from 1 to 8; or
- ii) —(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub> X (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>—where n and m are the same or different integers from 1 to 8, and X is O, S, NR<sup>4</sup>, PR<sup>4</sup>, AsR<sup>4</sup>, SbR<sup>4</sup>, divalent aryl, divalent fused aryl, divalent 5-membered heterocyclic ring, or divalent fused heterocyclic ring, where R<sup>4</sup> is C<sup>1</sup>-C<sup>8</sup> alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, or substituted alkyl; or
- iii) 1, 2-divalent phenyl, 2, 2'-divalent 1,
  1'biphenyl, 2,2'-divalent, 1,1' binapthyl, or
  ferrocene, each of which may be substituted
  independently with C<sub>1</sub> C<sub>8</sub> alkyl or aryl, F, Cl,
  Br, I, COOR<sup>5</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, PO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, OR<sup>5</sup>, SR<sup>5</sup>, NR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>,
  PR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, AsR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, SbR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, nitro, vinyl, substituted
  vinyl, alkynyl wherein R<sup>5</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl,
  substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> fluoroalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>
  perfluoroalkyl, aryl or substituted aryl; and

wherein Z is a compound selected from the group of compounds having the following formulas and their corresponding enantiomers:



37. A process for preparing a compound of formula A, represented by the formula:



said process comprising:

reacting a compound of formula B\* with a phosphine to form compound B:

and thereafter

reacting compound B with an acid to form compound A; wherein the phosphine is  $H_2P$  Bridge  $PH_2$ ;

- A) R is aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl aryl, or aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, which may be substituted with carboxylic acid, alkoxy, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylthio, thiol, dialkylamino, diphenylphosphino, or chiral oxazolino groups;
- B) the ring component O O represents a protected diol, a crown ether linkage, or

-O-(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)n-O- wherein n is an integer ranging from 1 to 8 and the methylene groups are optionally substituted by alkyl or linked to a polymer; and

- C) Bridge may be:
  - $\overline{-(CH_2)_n}$  where n is an integer ranging from 1 to 8;
- $-(CH_2)_n$ -X- $(CH_2)_m$  wherein n, m are each integers, the same or different, ranging from 1 to 8; or

1,2-divalent phenyl, 2,2'-divalent 1,1' biphenyl or 2,2'-divalent 1,2'binapthyl or ferrocene, each of which may be substituted with aryl or substituted aryl, or alkyl having 1-8 carbon atoms, heteroatom groups such as F, Cl, Br, I, COOR<sup>5</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, PO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, OR<sup>5</sup>, SR<sup>5</sup>, NR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, PR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, AsR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, or SbR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>,

wherein the substitution on 1,2-divalent phenyl, the ferrocene or biaryl bridge can be independently halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, alkoxyl, aryl, aryloxy, nitro, amino, vinyl, substituted vinyl, alkynyl, or sulfonic acids; and R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> fluoroalkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> perfluoro, aryl; substituted aryl; aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl; ringsubstituted arylalkyl; or CR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub>(CR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub>)<sub>q</sub>X(CR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>R<sup>1</sup> wherein q and p are integers, the same or different, ranging from 1 to 8; Xis O, S, NR<sup>4</sup>, PR<sup>4</sup>, AsR<sup>4</sup>, SbR<sup>4</sup>, divalent aryl, divalent fused aryl, divalent 5-membered ring heterocyclic group, or divalent fused heterocyclic group, wherein R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, substituted aryl and substituted alkyl groups.

38. A process according to claim 37 wherein:

R is  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl;

the ring component O O represents a protected diol; and Bridge is unsubstituted or substituted 1,2-divalent phenyl.

- 39. A process according to claim 38 wherein R is methyl or ethyl, the ring component OO is -O-C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-O- and Bridge is unsubstituted 1,2-divalent phenyl.
- 40. A process comprising subjecting a substrate to an asymmetric reaction in the presence of a catalyst comprising a chiral ligand represented by the formula A,

#### A', B, B', C, C', D, or D', or the corresponding enantiomer:

wherein:

- a) R and R<sup>2</sup> are independently aryl, alkyl, alkyl aryl, aryl alkyl, or chiral oxazolino which may be substituted with carboxylic acid, alkoxy, hydroxy, alkylthio, thiol, dialkylamino, or diphenylphosphino groups;
- b) R<sup>1</sup> can be H, alkyl, silane, aryl, a water soluble unit, or a linked polymer chain or inorganic support;
- c) the ring component O O represents a protected diol, a crown ether linkage, -O-alkyl-O- wherein the alkyl group is linked to a polymer, or -O-(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-O)<sub>n</sub>- wherein n is an integer ranging from 1 to 8 and the methylene groups are optionally substituted by C1-C8 alkyl; and

d) Bridge may be:

-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- where n is an integer ranging from 1 to 8;

-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>X(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- wherein n and m are each integers, the same or different, ranging from 1 to 8, and X is O, S, NR<sup>4</sup>, PR<sup>4</sup>, AsR<sup>4</sup>, SbR<sup>4</sup>, divalent aryl, divalent fused aryl, divalent 5-membered ring heterocyclic group, or divalent fused heterocyclic group, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is aryl, alkyl, substituted aryl, or substituted alkyl; or

1,2-divalent phenyl, 2,2'-divalent 1,1'biphenyl or 2,2'-divalent 1,2'binapthyl or ferrocene, each of which may be substituted with aryl, C1-C8 alkyl, F, Cl, Br, I, COOR<sup>5</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, PO<sub>3</sub>R<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, OR<sup>5</sup>, SR<sup>5</sup>, NR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, PR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, AsR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, or SbR<sup>5</sup><sub>2</sub>, wherein:

the substitution on 1,2-divalent phenyl, the ferrocene or biaryl bridge can be independently halogen, alkyl, alkoxyl, aryl, aryloxy, nitro, amino, vinyl, substituted vinyl, alkynyl, or sulfonic acids; and

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, C1-C8 alkyl, C1-C8 fluoroalkyl, or C1-C8 perfluoroalkyl, aryl; substituted aryl; arylalkyl; ring-substituted arylalkyl; or – CR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub>(CR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub>)<sub>q</sub>X(CR<sup>3</sup><sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>R<sup>1</sup> wherein q and p are integers, the same or different, ranging from 1 to 8; R<sup>3</sup> is aryl, alkyl, substituted aryl, or substituted alkyl; and X is as defined above;

wherein said asymmetric reaction is a hydrogenation, hydride transfer, hydrosilylation, hydroboration, hydrovinylation, olefin metathesis, hydroformylation, hydrocarboxylation, allylic alkylation, cyclopropanation, Diels-Alder, Aldol, Heck [m + n] cycloaddition, or Michael addition reaction.

- 41. A process according to claim 40, wherein said asymmetric reaction comprises asymmetric hydrogenation of a ketone, imine, enamide, or olefin.
- 42. A process according to claim 40, wherein said asymmetric reaction comprises Rh(I)-catalyzed hydrogenation of a dehydroamino acid or an ester thereof.